

**TESTIMONY**  
**FOR THE**  
**BUDGET HEARING**  
**ON THE**  
**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE ON AGING**  
**2006 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET REQUEST**

**BEFORE THE**  
**DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES**  
**ADRIAN FENTY, CHAIRPERSON**

**PRESENTED BY**  
**JAMES BOOZE , CHAIRPERSON**  
**D.C. COMMISSION ON AGING**

**IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2005**

**11:00AM**

**GOOD MORNING CHAIRPERSON FENTY AND DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, I AM JAMES BOOZE, CHAIRPERSON OF THE D.C. COMMISSION ON AGING. I AM PLEASED TO BE HERE THIS MORNING TO REPRESENT THE D.C. COMMISSION ON AGING AND TO GO ON RECORD IN SUPPORT OF MAYOR ANTHONY WILLIAMS' FISCAL YEAR 2006 BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE OFFICE ON AGING.**

**AS YOU KNOW, D.C. LAW 1-24 ESTABLISHED THE COMMISSION ON AGING TO SERVE AS AN ADVOCATE FOR OLDER WASHINGTONIANS AND TO ACT AS AN ADVISORY GROUP TO THE MAYOR, THE OFFICE ON AGING, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL, AND THE PUBLIC AT LARGE IN MATTERS CONCERNING OUR OLDER RESIDENTS.**

**SITTING BEHIND ME TODAY ARE COMMISSION ON AGING MEMBERS. I WOULD LIKE THANK THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR PRESENCE HERE TODAY. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK OUR MINI-COMMISSIONERS**

**AND FORMER COMMISSION ON AGING MEMBERS, WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE OFFICE ON AGING AND ITS MISSION.**

**ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSIONERS AND MINICOMMISSIONERS, AND THE OTHER 92,000 SENIORS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WE THANK YOU MAYOR WILLIAMS FOR NOT CUTTING THE SENIORS' BUDGET WHICH IS NOW BEFORE THE DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

**I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE DISTRICT COUNCIL IN ADVANCE FOR NOT CUTTING THE MAYOR'S BUDGET FOR SENIORS AND THE SINCERE CONCERN AND SUPPORT YOU HAVE DEMONSTRATED FOR US. I MIGHT ALSO ADD, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD A LITTLE MORE TO THE SENIORS' BUDGET, WE WILL TAKE THAT TOO.**

**WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THE FUTURE WELLNESS CENTERS IN WARDS 4, 6, AND 1. WE LOOK FORWARD TO STATE OF THE ART BUILDINGS AND PROGRAMS, LIKE THE WARD 8 CONGRESS HEIGHTS SENIOR WELLNESS CENTER. COUNCILMEMBER FENTY AND OTHER HONORABLE COUNCILMEMBERS, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE SENIOR WELLNESS CENTERS.**

**I ALSO COMMEND THE STAFF OF THE OFFICE ON AGING AND ITS LEADER E. VERONICA PACE. THIS OFFICE CONTINUES TO DO AN OUTSTANDING JOB WITH A SMALL, EFFICIENT STAFF AND A SENIOR SERVICE NETWORK THAT REACHES EVERY CORNER OF OUR CITY TO ENSURE THE DELIVERY OF QUALITY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO THE SENIOR POPULATION.**

**AGAIN THANK YOU COUNCIL MEMBER FENTY FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS YOU AND THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE ON THIS MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE.**

**I AM AVAILABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AND TO  
PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT YOU MAY  
NEED.**